THE MENTOR

"A Wise and Faithful Guide and Friend"

Vol. 1 No. 24

SWITZERLAND, THE LAND OF SCENIC SPLENDORS

LUCERNE

ST. GOTTHARD ROAD

GENEVA

CHAMONIX

ST. BERNARD

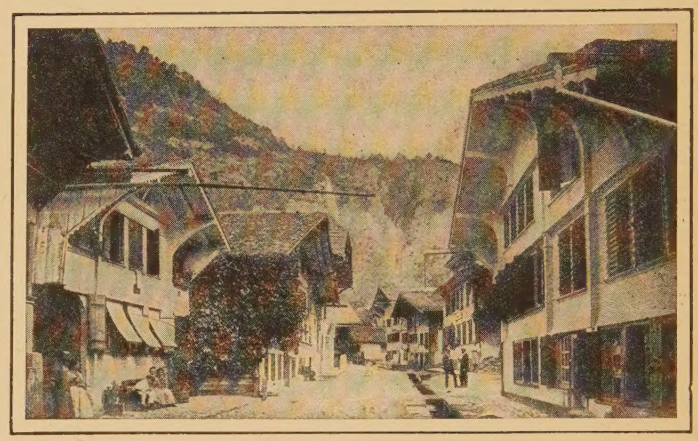
ST. MORITZ

A Trip Around the World with
DWIGHT L. ELMENDORF, Lecturer and Traveler

NATURE had a very interesting time when she shaped Switzerland The geologists can tell you about it. She carried the work along apparently in a leisurely manner,—not ripping nor blowing up in huge volcanic disturbances, but working along through thousands and thousands of years, trying one experiment and another, bending, breaking, and cracking the surface of the earth, until she had constructed one of the most magnificent scenic displays to be found on the globe. She turned up abrupt mountain peaks 15,000 feet in height. In stately ranges she stretched them across Switzerland, and in between she shaped valleys

of rare beauty, in many of which are set, like gems, fair lakes as blue as the sky above them.

When Nature had finished her labors, of which she might well have been proud, man came to add a touch of picturesqueness to the scene. He found a great setting for many interesting things. He climbed the high mountains, and laid out roads through the passes. He established in the danger stretches shelters like the Hospice of St. Bernard. To make places more accessible, he bored tunnels of astounding length through the solid rock.



A TYPICAL SWISS STREET

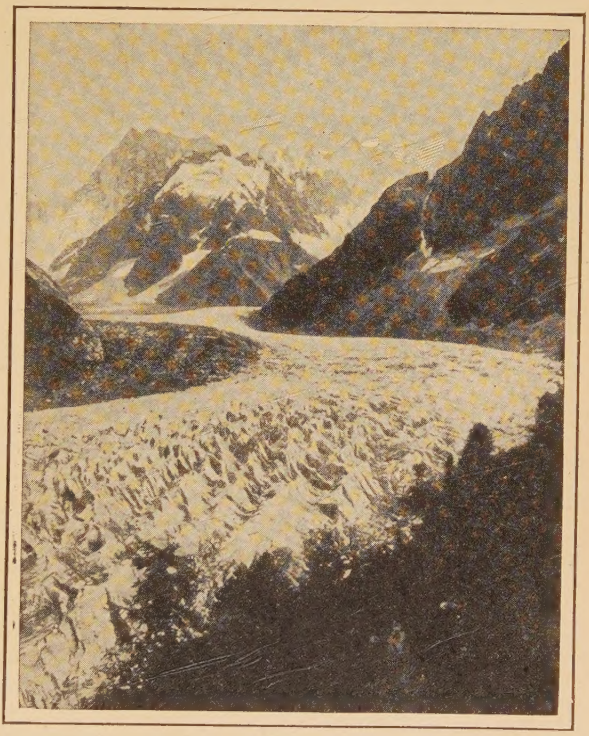
Man also picked out various spots for pleasure grounds, some in the lower valleys, some on the great heights, and there he placed chalets, toylike villages, and well equipped hotels. Today people go to Switzerland to see the wonderful views and to enjoy the sport and adventure. And in doing so they come in touch with a nation of people that is in itself especially interesting,—a thrifty, self-governed people, whose laws and institutions have served as models in some ways to the rest of the world. Surely the Swiss hotelkeepers are examples of their profession that any other nation could profitably study. Any traveler who has visited the best hotels in the Valley of Engadine, in Geneva, Zurich (zoo′-rik), and Lucerne, will bring home pleasant recollections of them. Switzerland is famous for its good hotels, large and small.

A LAND OF VARIED CONDITIONS

In a country where the height above sea level varies from 650 to 15,782 feet (the summit of Mont Blanc) there must, of course, be great variations in temperature and in conditions of life. In the lower lands the temperature is soft and warm, and the soil richly produces the almond, the olive, and the fig; the great heights are regions of perpetual ice and snow. Of the total area of Switzerland (16,000 square miles) nearly three-quarters is productive in some way. The other quarter is called unproductive; but it is given over to the features that have made Switzerland known to the rest of the world,—lakes of exquisite beauty and the

solemn splendor of glacial fields. The small territory of Switzerland is distributed over four river basins,—the Rhine, the Rhone, the Inn, and the Ticino. The gracious valleys and the rugged mountain heights in close association form a country of wondrous beauty and of constant change of scene.

The pleasantest seasons for visiting Switzerland are spring and autumn; though most visitors, for vacation reasons, have to make their sojourn there in summer. In spring and fall the lakes and valleys are the favorite spots. Lake Geneva, Lake Lucerne, and Lake Constance are popular resorts, and lie at a level of 1,200 feet. The elevated valleys of Davos and Arosa are sought in winter; for there the air is dry and bracing, and life is pleasant indeed. St. Moritz is the popular resort for those who seek winter sport. There, at a height of 6,000 feet, people play outdoors through the short winter days.



MER DE GLACE

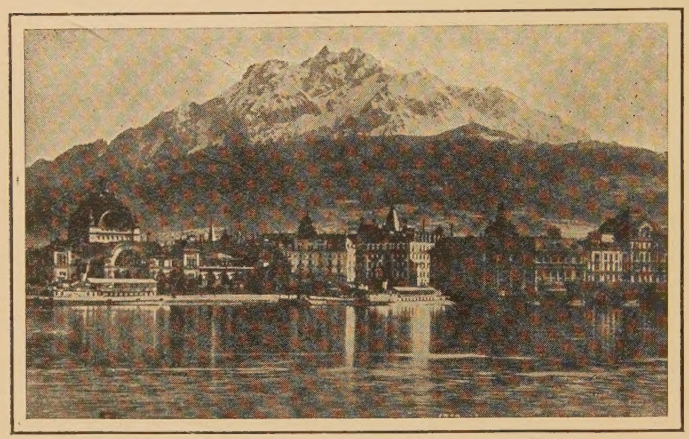
The "Sea of Ice" is one of the three glaciers descending into the valley of Chamonix.

PICTURESQUE LUCERNE

There are many things in and about Lucerne to engage the interest of a visitor. One of the first in its appeal, especially to the reader of history, is the Lion of Lucerne, which is to be found in an attractive little park in the city. The lion was hewn out of natural rock by the Danish sculptor Thorwaldsen, and it celebrates the Swiss guard of 760 soldiers who, with their officers, fell defending the Tuileries in August, 1792. The heroic figure of the dying lion lies outstretched with a broken lance in his body, his paw sheltering the lily, the symbol of the Bourbon family.

The Lake of Lucerne, called by some the "Lake of the Four Forest Cantons" (correctly described as the "Lake of the Four Valleys"),

offers some of the most beautiful views in Switzerland. The scenery on its four branches is varied and full of surprises. A boat trip around the lake is a day of delight that no one will ever forget. In the course of that trip we are introduced to many of Switzerland's star features. There on one side rises the Rigi (ree-gi) into the sky; on another, stately Mount Pilatus; and, as you go along, the distant hills grow more prominent and you are introduced to the Wetterhorn and the Jungfrau (yoong′-frow). Rigi and Pilatus are strikingly contrasted; Pilatus with rude peaks, usually cloud enwrapped, and Rigi covered with orchards, woods, and pastures. Pilatus and Rigi, imposing as they are, have both been captured by man and reduced to subjection; for they are ascended by rail, and are crowned by hotels that offer every comfort.

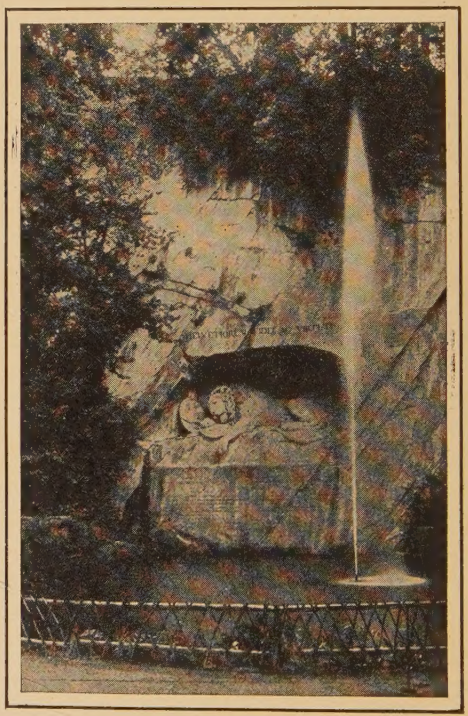


LUCERNE AND MOUNT PILATUS

In olden times it was believed that Pontius Pilate, in his wanderings through the world, impelled at last by horror and remorse, committed suicide upon the summit of this mountain.

The station of Tellsplatte (tels-plaht′-te) is an interesting spot to visit. There, on a ledge of rock, stands the little chapel built in celebration of William Tell. It marks the place where, according to tradition, Tell leaped from Gessler's boat. Here, along the lake, runs one of the famous roads of the world, the Axenstrasse, in some places hewn out of solid rock.

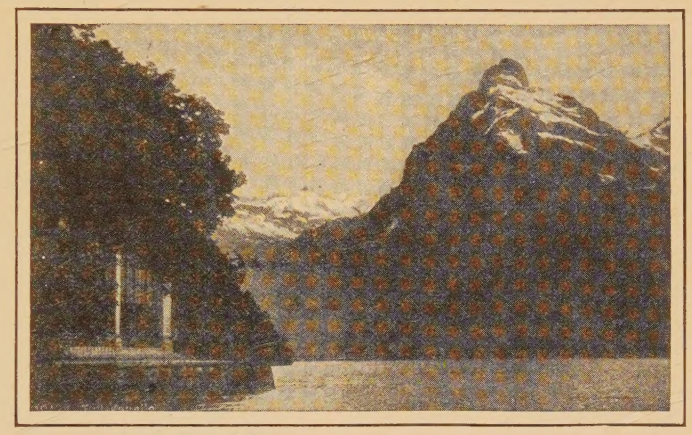
Switzerland has its romance as well as its splendid scenery, and its



THE LION OF LUCERNE

"To the Fidelity and Bravery of the Swiss."

romance has been celebrated many times in prose and verse. Usually, however, the mind of the visitor is absorbed in contemplation of the amazing wonders of Nature. There about the Lake of Lucerne we see how these wonders have been "brought to book" by the skill of mankind. Inaccessible points are reached by elevators or stairways. The imposing walls of rock are tunneled through for carriage roads and railroads.

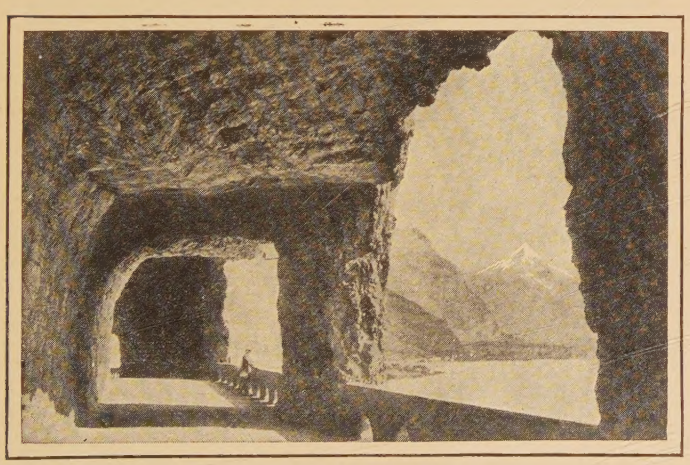


TELL'S CHAPEL

It stands on the shore of Lake Lucerne, at the spot where the hero, William Tell, jumping from the tyrant's boat, escaped the clutches of the Austrian governor.

THE ST. GOTTHARD ROAD

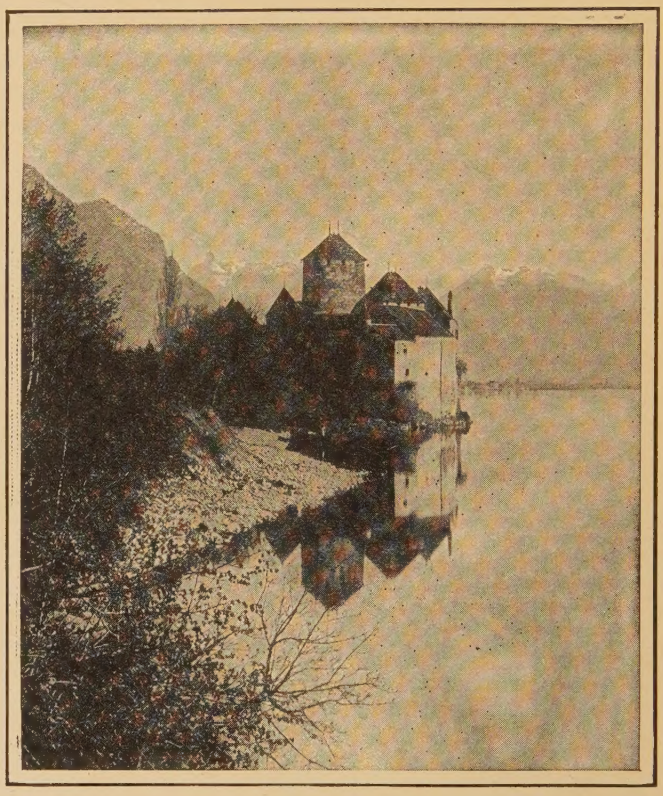
This marvel of engineering was built in the course of ten years (from 1872 to 1882), and it runs from Lucerne to Milan, a distance of 175 miles. It takes a course chiefly along the east shore of the Lake of Lucerne, then up the Reuss (rois) Valley until it enters one of the celebrated spiral tunnels. The St. Gotthard tunnel is nine and one-quarter miles in length, and reaches a height of 3,786 feet. In the course of its length it ascends and descends several spiral curves in order to secure a proper grade. It is famous as one of the greatest engineering achievements in the world's history. The road was built by a company; but, in 1909, the Swiss government exercised the right accorded to it in the original agreement of 1879, and bought the railway.



ON THE AXENSTRASSE

From these two famous windows a beautiful view may be had of Lake Lucerne.

GENEVA



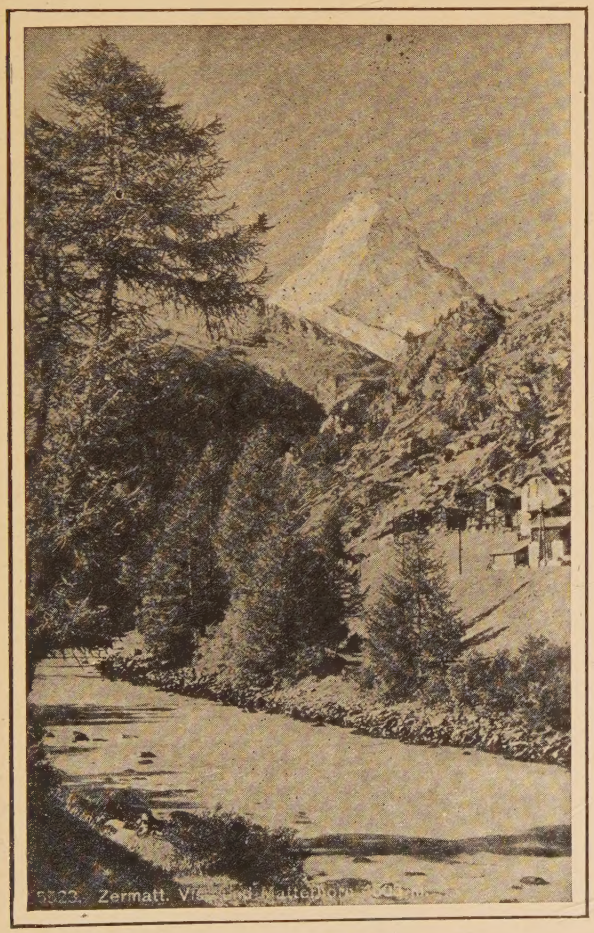
THE CASTLE OF CHILLON

This old stronghold, with its massive walls and towers, located on the Lake of Geneva, has been made famous by Lord Byron in his poem, "The Prisoner of Chillon."

A city of beauty and of business. Like Lucerne, Geneva is the capital of the canton of its own name, and lies at the end of a lake so called. The lake has two names, Leman being the less familiar one. This lively and industrious city—famous through three hundred years for its watches, jewelry, and music boxes—has many fine hotels, and is much visited by travelers. You find beauties within and about the city. The banks of the lake are rich in verdure, and dotted with many charming villas and pleasure resorts. The lake itself has a beauty peculiarly its own. A boat trip takes you to many points of vantage, where views can be had not only of the lake but of the surrounding mountain country. One of the most beautiful distant views of Mont Blanc is to be had from Nyon on the north shore of the lake. Lake Geneva is richer perhaps in history and romance than any other spot in Switzerland. Nearby the city is the Castle of Chillon, made famous by Byron in his poem "The Prisoner of Chillon." Aside from the romantic and historic associations of the spot, the castle is a most imposing and interesting example of medieval architecture. Looked at from the water side, with the castle mirrored in the lake, it is a charmingly picturesque sight. Many beautiful towns are situated on the north shore of Geneva, among the most attractive of them being Vevey. This town is a great vineyard center, and has been the scene of interesting festivals and celebrations in honor of the vine.

CHAMONIX

For those who seek the splendors of mountain peaks, the two most interesting towns are Chamonix (shah-mo-nee) and Zermatt, the former because it nestles at the foot of Mont Blanc, the latter for its proximity to the Matterhorn. The valley of Chamonix, through which flows the River Arve, is the one best known to tourists and the one most visited in Switzerland. This is no doubt on account of the grandeur of its glaciers. It is not the beauty that lies in Chamonix that draws so many there: it is the impressive character of its surroundings,—the huge ice cataracts that flow down toward it, and above them majestic Mont Blanc. The attitude in Chamonix is that of "looking up"; for all the glories to be seen there are above it. An interesting symbol of this is the bronze group that you see as you enter the town. It represents J. Balmat, who first ascended Mont Blanc in 1786, standing beside the Swiss naturalist De Saussure (so-soor′) and pointing the way up the mountain. This group is impressively dramatic; for it faces so that Balmat's finger is directed straight toward the summit of Mont Blanc, a view at which the eyes of thousands through the years have gazed in admiration and in awe.



THE MATTERHORN

Ascended for the first time on July 14, 1865, by Edward Whymper and six companions. In the descent all but Whymper and two guides lost their lives.

While adventurous climbers are ascending the great mountain, others watch their course from Chamonix through telescopes. Mont Blanc, as Byron has expressed it, is the "monarch of mountains." Its sovereign sway among the Alps,

MOUNT BLANC

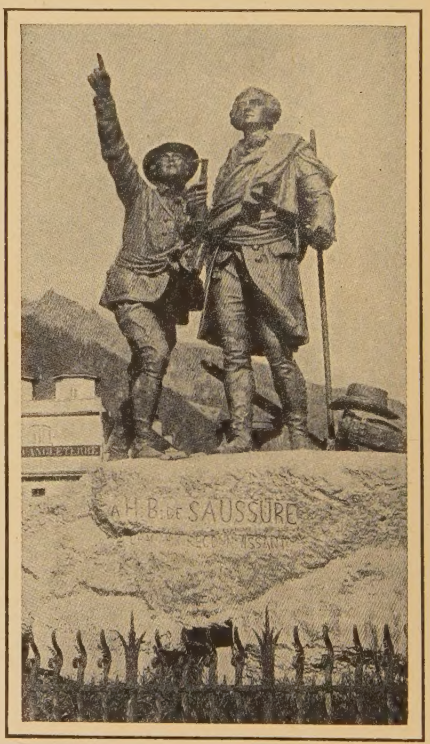
This monarch of the Alps, forming the boundary between France and Italy, was ascended for the first time in 1786 by the guide Jacques Balmat.

at least, cannot be disputed; except possibly by the Matterhorn, which has an austere character of its own that gives it a position of unique prominence. Mont Blanc (15,782 feet) is the most majestic mountain. In comparison the Matterhorn (14,780 feet) makes up the thousand feet it lacks in height by its forbidding structure. The Matterhorn has been called many names, "the Demon of the Alps" being an expressive one. It sits among its fellows like a huge crouching lion, its head erect in an attitude of menacing challenge.

THE GREAT ST. BERNARD

We have been going into higher levels. One of the highest known to the general traveler is the Pass of the Great St. Bernard. This is 8,108 feet in height, and through it goes the road between Aosta, in Piedmont, and Martigny, (Mar′-teen′-yee) in Switzerland. The famous Hospice was founded in 962 by Bernard de Menthon, a neighboring nobleman, as a shelter for pilgrims to Rome. It has always been occupied by Augustinian monks, young and strong; about fifteen in number, with some attendants.

All have heard stories of the achievements of the St. Bernard dogs. Some of them have been much exaggerated. The pictures of our childhood days would lead us to believe that these great creatures lifted half-frozen human beings to their backs and carried them up the mountain. As a matter of fact, though, the dogs and



MONUMENT ERECTED TO DE SAUSSURE AND BALMAT AT CHAMONIX

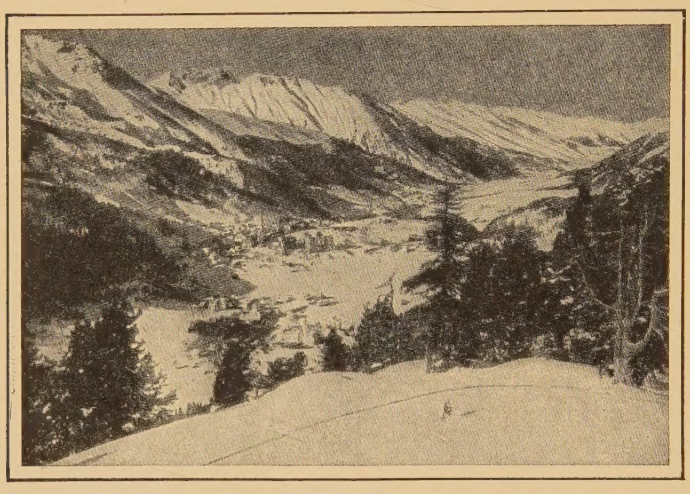
the monks of St. Bernard have done a noble work through many years. By this service many travelers who have lost their way or become numbed by cold have been rescued. When we consider that the winter on the pass is nine months long, we can appreciate the vigorous character of the work these monks have assumed. It uses them up in time. After about eighteen years' service it is necessary for a monk to retire to the valleys below and give way to a younger and stronger man.

The Hospice is today connected with stations in the valley below by telephone, so that the monks can be informed of parties starting up the pass. There are several buildings, including a chapel and the shelter house itself. The latter accommodates several hundred. No charge is made for the hospitality; but, as other travelers will inform you, no one should leave without depositing in the contribution box a sum at least as much as he would have paid at a hotel elsewhere.

ST. BERNARD DOG
The long-haired breed.

The St. Bernard dogs, according to tradition, were originally a cross between a Great Dane and a native hill dog, a species of mastiff. They were originally all short-haired dogs. The strain remained pure until 1812, when, on account of severe weather, the dogs, female as well as male, were sent out in service and the females succumbed to the cold. In order to continue the breed a cross was made with the Newfoundland, and this brought about the long-haired St. Bernard dog of our day. This breed is beautiful; but on account of the snow and ice clinging to its long hair it was found to be not so serviceable as the short-haired dog. The monks of St. Bernard, therefore, bred back to short-haired dogs.

MOUNTAIN CLIMBERS
Mountain climbing is one of the most exhilarating sports in the world. Switzerland offers every opportunity to the mountain climber.



ST. MORITZ

The highest village in the Engadine valley. It is well known as both a summer and winter resort.

The long-haired St. Bernard has taken a place as a very handsome pet, and as a show dog is generally preferred to the short-haired.

SWITZERLAND'S WINTER PLAYGROUND

In striking contrast to the severity of the Great St. Bernard is St. Moritz, in the upper valley of the Engadine. This beautiful spot is 6,000 feet high, and has come to be known as one of the most important winter resorts in all Europe. It is not simply the fine climatic conditions that it offers, nor its mineral springs, that commend it to the traveler; it is the magnificence of the scenery and the great joy of outdoor sport during the winter. Surrounded by the most inspiring scenes that Nature could offer, visitors live a life of winter joy, skating, curling, tobogganing, and skeeing. There are many competitions for sporting events, and those of the bobsled are stirring to the point of danger. The famous Cresta Run at St. Moritz is known as the best ice run of all, and its events have been described and pictured many times.

THE JUNGFRAU

While "touching the high spots," go to Mürren. It is a wonderful place, and commands some of the finest views in all Switzer-

THE JUNGFRAU

Ascended for the first time in 1811 *by Rudolph and Hieronymus Meyer.*

land. You are taken up there in cable cars twenty-two hundred feet from Lauterbrunnen village. You have had your enjoyment in Interlaken, a lovely town in the valley, and there you got a sight of the Jungfrau. When you get up on the heights in Mürren (muer′-ren) your attention is largely on the Jungfrau, the "Maiden Mountain," regarded by many as the most beautiful mountain of the Alps. Attended by her companion peaks, the sharp-pointed Eiger and the snow-shrouded Monk, the Jungfrau presents an aspect of dignity and loftiness that is most impressive. Once seen, the summit of the Jungfrau, rose colored under the touch of the setting sun, can never be forgotten. Ambitious mountain climbers always found the Jungfrau a difficult problem. She was conquered about a hundred years ago, and now a visitor can ride two-thirds of the way up the mountain, and in a few years he may be carried to the summit.

THE STAUBBACH

The "Spray-Brook" is the best known of the Lauterbrunnen falls. It has a leap of 980 feet, and resembles a silvery veil.

In Switzerland there is something for everyone who loves the beauty and the stimulating air of outdoor life. It is in all its beauties and in all its advantages a splendidly graded scale. You may begin in the valley of the Engadine and gradually ascend to St. Moritz; you may start at the Lauterbrunnen Valley from Interlaken and ascend to Mürren. You may linger in Lauterbrunnen Valley to enjoy the beauty of Staubbach, the veil-like waterfall. You may settle by the limpid waters of the Swiss lakes, or you may assail the superb mountain citadels. At either of the extremes, the valleys or the summits, there is much to interest and much to amaze the traveler, and scattered through the intermediate levels are spots of ravishing beauty. It is indeed a country of scenic splendor.

SUPPLEMENTARY READING

Hints and Notes for Travelers in the Alps . .	*J. Ball*
Handbook for Travelers in Switzerland . .	*Murray*
The Swiss Democracy .	*H. D. Lloyd*
Social Switzerland . .	*W. H. Dawson*
The Rise of the Swiss Republic	*W. D. McCrackan*
A Little Swiss Sojourn .	*W. D. Howells*
Our Life in the Swiss Highlands	*J. A. and M. Symonds*

QUESTIONS ANSWERED

Subscribers desiring further information concerning this subject can obtain it by writing to

The Mentor Association
381 Fourth Avenue, New York City

"THE LAKE OF LUCERNE," calm and picturesquely beautiful, is one of the six intaglio-gravure pictures illustrating "Switzerland."

THE LAKE OF LUCERNE

Monograph Number One in The Mentor Reading Course

LUCERNE, the resting-place of Switzerland, is beloved by tourists. With its two sentinel peaks, Pilatus and Rigi, its picturesque scenery, and its own calm Lake of Lucerne, the quaint old town on the banks of the River Reuss is a magnet for all visitors to the land of William Tell.

Mount Pilatus, nearly seven thousand feet high, is the barometer of Lucerne. By its cap of clouds it foretells the weather.

There is a legend about Mount Pilatus, which says that Pontius Pilate in his wanderings through the world, impelled at last by horror and remorse, committed suicide upon its summit. And so the mountain got its name. For a long time it was considered haunted, and people were forbidden to ascend it on Friday. Now there is a hotel on the top, and every day in the week a train ascends Pilatus to the summit.

On August 10, 1792, twenty-six officers and seven hundred and sixty soldiers of the Swiss guard fell in defending the Tuileries from the Paris mob. Fighting for Louis XVI, a king who was not their own ruler, nevertheless they went bravely to their deaths. They alone were faithful, and for their fidelity they paid with their lives.

The "Lion of Lucerne" commemorates the bravery of the Swiss guard. It was designed by the Danish sculptor, Thorwaldsen, and was carved out of the natural sandstone in 1821. The lion is twenty-eight feet long and reclines in a monstrous niche. Beneath the figure, chiseled in the rock, are the names of the officers murdered by the mob. Above is the simple Latin inscription, meaning "To the fidelity and bravery of the Swiss."

In the neighborhood of the Lion of Lucerne is the Glacier Garden, a series of potholes worn in the sandstone rock bed of an ancient glacier.

Old Lucerne is a walled town. The wall inclosing it has nine watch-towers, erected in 1385.

The Lake of Lucerne is the most beautiful in all Switzerland. It is twenty-three miles long, and has the form of a huge cross. More than 500,000 travelers cross it during the summer months alone.

PREPARED BY THE EDITORIAL STAFF OF THE MENTOR ASSOCIATION
ILLUSTRATION FOR THE MENTOR, VOL. 1, NO. 24, SERIAL NO. 24

"VIEW ON THE ST. GOTTHARD RAILWAY," showing a part of this great engineering achievement, is one of the six intaglio-gravure pictures illustrating "Switzerland."

VIEW ON THE ST. GOTTHARD RAILWAY

Monograph Number Two in The Mentor Reading Course

THE St. Gotthard Railway, constructed in 1872-82 at a cost of $54,200,000, is one of the greatest achievements of modern science. Besides the great tunnel at the top of the line, there are seventy-nine others of shorter length. Seven of these are spiral tunnels which pierce the sides of the valley, making the ascent more gradual.

In 1869 and 1871 Germany, Italy, and Switzerland signed an agreement for the construction of a railway with a tunnel through the St. Gotthard. This great tunnel itself cost over $11,000,000 to build. It is nine and a quarter miles long. This makes it about three miles shorter than the Simplon tunnel, the longest in the world. At its center the St. Gotthard tunnel is 3,786 feet above sea level, from which it descends on both sides. It is twenty-eight feet broad and twenty-one feet high. It takes an express train about twenty minutes to pass through the tunnel. The air in the tunnel is fresh and free from smoke.

During the construction of the St. Gotthard tunnel, which took nearly ten years, there were 600 deaths among the workmen. Included among these were the engineer and contractor. This heavy loss of life was due to insufficient ventilation, the high temperature, the exposure of the men to the Alpine climate after emerging from the tunnel, and the poor character of the food.

The St. Gotthard is a mountain group, one hundred and sixty square miles in area, with a number of different peaks, extensive glaciers, and about thirty small lakes. It is famous for its rich Alpine flora. Many rare minerals are also found there. All the approaches to the St. Gotthard are guarded by modern fortifications.

The pass of St. Gotthard is the principal route from southern Europe to northern Italy. At its highest point it is 6,935 feet above the sea. It takes its name for some unknown reason from St. Gotthard, bishop of Hildesheim, who died in 1038.

At the beginning of the nineteenth century the St. Gotthard was probably the most frequented Alpine pass; but it was gradually deserted for others. The road over the pass, constructed between 1820 and 1832 by the cantons of Uri and Ticino, is one of the best and most convenient of the Alpine carriageways, and is free from snow during four or five months of the year; but since the completion of the railway it is not much used. Nevertheless, it is still interesting to walk or drive over the pass, as the grandeur of the scenery is remarkable.

The St. Gotthard hospice on the summit of the pass is first mentioned in 1331. In 1775 some of its buildings were destroyed by an avalanche, and in 1799-80 everything was destroyed by the French soldiers. It was rebuilt in 1834; but in March, 1905, was again destroyed, this time by fire. There is now a new hospice with a meteorological station.

PREPARED BY THE EDITORIAL STAFF OF THE MENTOR ASSOCIATION
ILLUSTRATION FOR THE MENTOR, VOL. 1, NO. 24, SERIAL NO. 24

LAKE OF LUCERNE (URI BRANCH), SWITZERLAND

AKE GENEVA AND THE CASTLE OF CHILLON," famous for its romantic history, is one of the six intaglio-gravure pictures illustrating "Switzerland."

LAKE GENEVA AND THE CASTLE OF CHILLON

Monograph Number Three in The Mentor Reading Course

ONE night less than a century ago a little boat grated on the shore of Lake Geneva, and there stepped from it a man enveloped in a long black cloak. The man limped slightly. For over an hour he remained all by himself in the historic dungeon. When he had gone a new name was found carved on the post to which Bonnivard had been chained. That name—Byron—may be seen today by all who visit Chillon.

Bonnivard, the defender of Swiss liberties, was imprisoned in the Castle of Chillon nearly four centuries ago by the tyrant, Charles III of Savoy. For six years he languished in his gloomy cell chained to a post in the center. For six long, dreary years his jailers heard no word of complaint or suffering pass his lips. And when at last he was rescued by his countrymen his first thought was not of himself, but for his fatherland. Pale and emaciated, still chained to the pillar round which he had walked so many years, he was but a shadow of his former self.

"Bonnivard, you are free!" they cried.

He slowly rose. "And Geneva?" he asked.

"Free also!" they replied.

To tell of all the tragedies that have been enacted within the walls of the time-worn stronghold would be impossible. One of the most terrible is the story of the hundred of Jews who were tortured, and then buried alive on the foolish suspicion that they had poisoned all the wells of Europe.

But the tragedy of Bonnivard is the most famous of all, and this is due to the poem, "The Prisoner of Chillon," written by Lord Byron. And strange to say, Byron's "Prisoner" was a purely imaginary person. The real Bonnivard 's story was quite different.

The Lake of Geneva, the lake of poetry and song, is sometimes also known by the name of Lake Leman. Its waters form a beautiful blue crescent, forty-five miles long and eight miles wide. It is said that Neptune, the sea-god, once came to see the Lake of Geneva, and was so charmed with its beauty that he gave it his own likeness in miniature.

The names of many men of genius are associated with this famous lake. Byron often sailed upon its surface. The poet Shelley nearly drowned there. Madame de Staël lived at one point along its shore. Voltaire, the great genius of France, held his literary court there for years. Gibbon finished "The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire" near its waters.

Many have praised the Lake of Geneva. Tyndall said that its water was the purest natural water ever analyzed; Voltaire declared it to be the "First of Lakes"; Alexander Dumas compared it to the Bay of Naples. It is indeed a lovely lake, and only to linger on its shores for a few days is a delight not to be excelled the world over.

PREPARED BY THE EDITORIAL STAFF OF THE MENTOR ASSOCIATION
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MONT BLANC FROM CHAMONIX, SWITZERLAND

"MONT BLANC FROM CHAMONIX," a view of this long invincible "Monarch of Mountains," is one of the six intaglio-gravure pictures illustrating "Switzerland."

MONT BLANC FROM CHAMONIX

Monograph Number Four in The Mentor Reading Course

THE valley of Chamonix has Mont Blanc; but it does not need it, for it has beauty enough of its own. The green fields, the swift running waters of the River Arve, the huge rivers of ice that flow down into the valleys, and the everlasting snows that cap the summit of Mont Blanc itself, have made Chamonix one of the most popular of all mountain resorts.

The valley of Chamonix runs from northeast to southeast and is watered by the Arve, which rises in the Mer de Glace. Chamonix, the village, 3,445 feet above the sea, is visited annually by thousands of tourists, as it is the best starting point for the exploration of the glaciers of the Mont Blanc chain, as well as for the ascent of Mont Blanc itself.

Mont Blanc dominates the valley of Chamonix. It is 15,779 feet high, and its summit is always covered with snow. Jacques Balmat, a guide, first conquered this peak in 1786. De Saussure, the great Swiss scientist, in 1761 had promised a large reward to the man who found a practicable route to the top. During the twenty-odd years that followed many vain attempts to win this reward were made. But it was not until 1786 that young Jacques Balmat, who had been born a year after De Saussure made his offer, succeeded in climbing the mountain. The ascent has been made many times since, and in 1893 Dr. Janssen built an observatory on the summit.

Many of the greatest poets and prose writers have told of the feeling of awe inspired in their breasts by Mont Blanc in its majesty,—Goethe, Victor Hugo, Byron, Shelley, Wordsworth. But perhaps Coleridge has expressed this feeling the best in his "Hymn Before Sunrise in the Vale of Chamouni":

> "Who made you glorious as the gates of Heaven
> Beneath the keen full moon? Who bade the sun
> Clothe you with rainbows? Who, with living flowers
> Of loveliest blue, spread garlands at your feet?
> God!—let the torrents, like a shout of nations,
> Answer! and let the ice-plains echo, God!"

Chamonix has long been well known as a place to visit in the summer; but it is just beginning to become known as a winter resort. In winter there is fine skating, ski-ing, tobogganing, and bob sledding. There are two skating clubs of Paris whose headquarters are at Chamonix in the winter, and some of the most expert skating in the world is done there.

PREPARED BY THE EDITORIAL STAFF OF THE MENTOR ASSOCIATION
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"THE HOSPICE OF THE GREAT ST. BERNARD," long the home of a brave little band of monks, is one of the six intaglio-gravure pictures illustrating "Switzerland."

THE HOSPICE OF THE GREAT ST. BERNARD

Monograph Number Five in The Mentor Reading Course

EIGHT thousand feet above the sea, far from their friends and the smiling valleys of Switzerland, bound with the icy chains of winter for nine months of the year, beaten by bitter blizzards and gales, lives a little group of monks in the Hospice of the Great St. Bernard on the pass of the same name. The duty of this brave little band is to receive strangers within their gates and to rescue travelers during the snowy season.

St. Bernard de Menthon founded the hospice on the pass in 962. It is the second highest winter habitation in the Alps. Ten or fifteen Augustine canons and seven attendants now live there. The famous St. Bernard dogs, whose keen sense of smell enables them to discover travelers buried in the snow, assist them in their noble work. Many are the rescues that have been made by these sagacious animals.

In the Middle Ages the monastery was rich; but now it has a hard time to meet expenses. Thirty thousand travelers [illegible] entertained free of charge annu[illegible] Each guest is supposed to deposit in an alms box a gift to the monastery. This gift should cover the expense of his entertainment; but the amount annually deposited barely pays for one-tenth of the number of people entertained.

The hospice itself consists of two buildings. One contains the church, the dwellings of the canons, and rooms for travelers; the other is an inn connected with the old building by a covered passage. Near the hospice is the morgue, in which are placed bodies found in the snow.

To the west of the monastery is a small lake, which is sometimes frozen over even on summer mornings. It is a desolate body of water. Too cold for any kind of fish, it therefore attracts no birds. Man and dog alone of all living things survive so far above the rest of the world.

On the northwest side of this lake, on the St. Bernard Pass, near a small brook, are stones marking the Italian frontier. Nearby stand a stone cross, erected in 1816, and a tall bronze statue of St. Bernard on a lofty pedestal.

[illegible]EPARED BY THE EDITORIAL STAFF OF THE MENTOR ASSOCIATION
[illegible]LLUSTRATION FOR THE MENTOR, VOL. 1, No. 24, SERIAL No. 24

"ST. MORITZ," famous the world over as a beautiful health resort, is one of the six intaglio-gravure pictures illustrating "Switzerland."

ST. MORITZ

Monograph Number Six in The Mentor Reading Course

ST. MORITZ, the highest and most populous village of the Upper Engadine valley in Switzerland, is both a summer and a winter resort of the homeless rich. The English season is during the winter on account of the fine skating and tobogganing. The non-English visitors go to St. Moritz chiefly in the summer.

The Engadine is a valley about sixty miles long, descending from the Maloja Pass to the Tyrolese frontier. The highest part of the valley above St. Moritz is the most beautiful, with its rugged mountain scenery, its many lakes and picturesque little Swiss villages. And in the midst of all this wildness of nature one finds many large and luxurious hotels to accommodate the enormous number of visitors to the Engadine during the year. The glaciers fill the neighboring valleys, the snow peaks cut their white outlines against the clear blue sky. And one may observe it all without moving from a comfortable hotel veranda.

The Upper Engadine is one of the most famous health resorts in the world. The air is strong and bracing the year round. As the natives say, the climate is "nine months winter and three months cold." White frosts and even snow are not uncommon in August.

St. Moritz is divided into two parts,—Dorf St. Moritz, the village, and Bad St. Moritz, the suburb, whose chief attraction is the Bad Anstatt, or Bath Establishment. These baths are mineral waters strongly impregnated with carbonic acid and alkaline salts. They are used only in the summer.

The village of St. Moritz was known as a pilgrim resort as far back as the fifteenth century. It is built on the north shore of the Lake of St. Moritz. This lake is formed by the waters of the River Inn.

Beyond St. Moritz lies a chain of lovely little lakes. By driving along the shores of those one may reach the Maloja Pass at the upper end of the Engadine. There is found the silvery cascade, the birthplace of the River Inn.

It is said that the Swiss are a nation of hotel keepers, and that too much comfort is ruining the pleasure of seeing Nature in her wilder moods. But as one native, a successful proprietor himself, said, "You foreigners are so unreasonable! You come to a poor village and complain that it affords no comfort for those who would so gladly come to enjoy the lovely scenery roundabout. We borrow money and build for you a magnificent hotel, and then you say, 'The mercenary Swiss are ruining their lovely country and killing all its charm.'"

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